

LV5 - UNIT 2A – LISTENING AND VOCABULARY

LISTEN AND COMPLETE THE BLANKS WITH THE MISSING PHRASES WITH GET

I = Interviewer C = Corinna V = Victor

I: My guests today are the popular social media stars Corinna Wells and Victor Galan. You've probably read their posts or seen their updates, so, let's 1....., Corinna and Victor. What's it like to travel the world for a living?

C: Well ... that's a good question. Overall it's great ...

V: It's a great job ... You 2..... and you know no two days are alike. Plus of course you're your own boss.

C: And we 3..... a lot of amazing stuff.

V: ... like scuba diving and bungee jumping and stuff like that ...

C: And we've just 4..... Thailand, which was amazing.

V: But there are some downsides ...

C: Yeah ... We've been travelling nonstop for two years now ...

V: Yeah, that's quite exhausting.

C: It's not easy to make enough money to live.

I: So how do you make money?

C: Well, basically companies pay us to promote their products in our social media posts. Usually we just include the product in the photo but sometimes we mention it, too.

V: Yeah.

C: It's mostly stuff like sun cream, drinks, clothes or sometimes it's actual holiday resorts.

I: Really? And how do you find those companies?

V: You have to hustle.

I: Hustle?

V: Yeah, you know, you've got to find work. Work doesn't find you. Advertisers don't 5..... you, you have to 6..... them.

C: You have to 7.....

I: Oh, so you actually pitch for work?

C: Oh, yeah, yeah. Absolutely. We send a lot of emails to companies but we're lucky if we hear back from one in ten.

V: Yeah.

I: So when we see a photo of you on the beach looking all relaxed, it's not really the truth?

C: Not really. You have to remember that we were only there to take that photo. We didn't have time to enjoy it.

I: So, can I ask a really rude question. How much do you get paid?

C: Oh, well, it really depends.

V: Yeah, on average we get about 500 euros for a post.

C: Which sounds like a lot of money, but you've got to remember it takes a lot of work to organize that deal. And we've just lowered our prices. There's a lot of competition.

I: You've lowered your prices? So how much do you earn a month?

V: Well, in the last month we've probably earned about four thousand euros.

C: But again, you've got to remember that most of the money goes back into the business.

V: Yeah, we've probably spent five thousand!

C: Yeah, I mean travel isn't cheap and we have to pay for everything, like hotels, flights, meals ...

V: Other social media influencers earn much more but then you need literally millions of followers.

I: But you've seen some great places, right?

C: Oh yeah, yeah, sure, sure. I was a graphic designer before I started this. I liked my work, but I didn't love it. You know, I used to **8**..... late most days. It wasn't a very exciting lifestyle. Then I met Victor on holiday and we just decided ...

V: ... we decided to keep travelling!

I: Do you still enjoy travelling together?

C: For the most part – yeah.

V: Sometimes we **9**.....

C: But you still have to look like you're having the time of your life in the photos. We've learnt to fake it. We have to look perfect!

V: Yeah but you **10**.....with the whole perfection thing ...

C: I DO NOT! It's what our followers expect! If we start posting photos where we look like we're not having fun ...

I: OK, OK, so ... what's the plan now?

C: Well, we've been talking about what to do recently and ...

V: I haven't seen my family for a long time.

C: We've been to hundreds of different places – and they're all beautiful but they start to blend into one.

V: So we're like thinking of taking a break. Going back to the UK for a while.

C: After two years of holidaying we need to **11**.....

I: So, stopping travelling for a while?

V: Yeah. Our friends don't **12**..... They think we're mad.

I: It seems to me that your life on social media looks perfect but you sound a bit disillusioned. Is it all fake?

C: Yes and no. Like, when we first **13**....., going on holiday was fun. But now it's all we do and it's become a bit ... unreal.

V: And I guess we've been **14**..... even more recently.

C: I always wanted to travel but what I've realized is that if you want to travel, you need a home to travel from. I sometimes **15**.....I've lost my home, and I've lost myself. I'm not sure what's real and what's for show.